

A BLUNDERING SURVEYOR.

He Gets the Lot Owners on Polk Street into Trouble.

All the people who reside on the east side of Polk between First and Second streets are interested in the case of James Clark vs John W. Farnsworth which is on trial in the district court today.

When the city of Topeka was laid out by the original town company the surveyor was instructed to run Polk street through to the river.

The surveyor made a blunder either because of his oversight or a poor machine and switched off the line of Polk street and cut off the front ends of all the lots in the block which formed the northeast corner of section 32 which was being platted. From four to 100 feet are cut off.

The error was not discovered at the time and when Mr. John W. Farnsworth bought the Ward tract a few years ago, his east line was extended to cover Polk street and the west end of these lots, about thirteen in number.

When the lots were sold the purchasers supposed they were buying their lots clear through to Polk street and Mr. James Clark who purchased several of the lots is now suing in the district court in an effort to obtain a clear title to his lots.

MR. PORCH INITIATED.

He Is a Knight Templar and Will Preach the Annual Sermon.

The Topeka Commandery No. 5, held its annual election of officers last evening in the Masonic rooms.

The following were the officers elected: G. B. Jennings, commander; Wm. F. Carroll, general; Wm. M. Quinn, captain general; Charles J. Webb, senior warden; H. P. Morris, junior warden; D. W. Sells, treasurer; F. P. Rodgers, recorder; Wm. S. Bergenthal, standard bearer; C. W. Koenig, sword bearer; Gen. P. Connor, warden; Robert Edwards, sentinel; and F. W. Baker, organist.

Rev. F. M. Porch was initiated into the order last week, and he will preach the annual sermon to the Knights Templar on Sunday afternoon at 1 o'clock at the English Unitarian church. The Knights Templar numbered 363 the first of January, and some new members have been received since then.

The members of the commandery will meet at the Masonic rooms at 1 o'clock, and will march to the church headed by Marshall's military band.

CONFERENCE WILL RESULT.
Amalgamated Association and Manufacturers May Adjust Differences.

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RIOT ON A BOAT.

Guns and Shotguns Freely Used by Kansas Miners.

POMEROY, O., March 21.—A small riot took place on the Kanawha river packet Columbia, last night, while embarking twenty miners at Clifton, W. Va., for the Monarch mines in Kanawha valley. The fight broke out between Capt. John Henry, a local prize pugilist, and Jim Johnson, a miner, who got into trouble and continued until 23 men were involved.

Pistols and shotguns were freely used. Charlie Purcell, operator from Monaca, employing miners raised in as peaceable and had his left arm severed at the wrist. Henry will probably not recover and a dozen others were wounded.

IRRIGATIONISTS MEET.

Buffalo Bill and J. L. Bristow Make Speeches.

OMAHA, March 21.—Three hundred delegates, representing Nebraska, Iowa, Kansas, Colorado, Wyoming, Missouri and Montana, were present at the opening session of the Interstate Irrigation congress here today. W. N. Nason of Omaha called the congress to order in a brief talk, and introduced President Moses, who reviewed the objects of the convention.

After it had been decided to admit all residents of the arid region to the convention, Mayor Bemis welcomed the delegates to Omaha. President Moses then read an extended address on irrigation and Secretary Bristow, of Kansas, urged the convention to demand from congress a thorough investigation of the possibilities of the semi-arid region when properly watered.

Col. W. F. Cody (Buffalo Bill) delivered an enthusiastic irrigation oration predicting that the western farmer would have a "perpetual plow" when irrigation had full sway.

George W. Clement, president of the Wichita Board of Trade, declared that Congress and the man in the White house must soon recognize the west and not bow down to Wall street and the east.

TO PUNISH TATTLERS.

House Considering a Bill Making it Unlawful to Lie About Pensioners.

WASHINGTON, March 21.—The house committee on invalid pensions is devoting some attention to a bill which makes it unlawful for any person to willfully communicate or cause to be communicated to United States officials performing duties connected with pensions, any false statement with the intent to thereby defeat or suspend the granting, or payment of pensions to any pensioner or applicant. The bill was introduced by Chairman Martin.

Standard Sewing Machine
Is the best machine to work on; for sale by E. W. Hughes, 215 E. Fifth.

Easter Eggs.

Beautiful Easter eggs will be offered for sale at the First M. E. church this evening.

There will be a social dance given at 704 Kansas avenue Thursday evening, March 22d, for the benefit of Capitolota Hebrew degree staff. Watson's orchestra. All invited.

A fine programme will be rendered at the close of the picnic supper at the First M. E. church this evening.

Come to the market picnic supper at the First M. E. church this evening.

LATEST

"THEY'LL CRACK MY SPINE."

Higgins, Who Objected to Being Hung With Prendergast, Talks.

OTTAWA, Ill., March 21.—Thomas Higgins, the Chicago murderer, who objects to being hanged on the same scaffold with Prendergast, the assassin of Mayor Harrison, was today refused superseded by the supreme court. Higgins will therefore hang on Good Friday.

Higgins unconcernedly lit a cigarette when he was informed of the supreme court's decision, and laughingly said he was ready.

"They'll crack my spine all right Friday," he said. "Prendergast will get a stay. He murdered a gentleman, so I'll get my neck injured.

The fall people hunted for a rarer piece of meat, but they say they were afraid I would kill myself. There was a bloke break. I don't want to kill myself. If they'll give me a barrel of whisky and a dipper, though I'll be dead in the morning—dead drunk."

The condemned man calmly lit another cigarette and prepared to receive a priest as he said, "I'll square himself for the next world."

HARVARD-YALE EMPIRE.

Nick Young Will Appear This Without the Student's Knowledge.

CAMBRIDGE, Mass., March 21.—Under an agreement entered into by the representatives of Harvard and Yale at a recent baseball conference at Springfield, an umpire will be appointed by Mr. N. E. Young, president of the National league for each champion game between the collegians during the summer.

His nominees will be then approved by a graduate from each college. The under-graduate managers and the players are not to know who the umpire is until he puts in an appearance upon the field.

EXORBITANT EMBALMING.

Consul Crittenden Protests Against the Way Mexicans Bury Dead.

CITY OF MEXICO, March 21.—The Two Republics of today contains a strong protest from United States Consul General Crittenden, over the charge of \$1,000 made for the embalming of the body of Miss Lella Sherman, of the Raymond & Whitecomb excursion party, who died on Saturday night.

At his home in the Chesterfield hotel, William Allen Sells died last night at 8:45. The end was not unexpected as his health has been poor all winter, and his condition during the past week has been such as to convince his relatives and friends that the end was a matter of only a short time.

Mr. Sells suffered a relapse last Friday night, and all day yesterday he had been shaking. Mrs. Sells and Mr. and Mrs. William Sells, Jr., were at his bedside when he passed away and he died in his son's arms. The end was peaceful and came without a struggle.

A complication of Bright's disease and pneumonia was the cause of Mr. Sells' death. It is said that the exposure and hardships of the circus life, which he followed for more than a dozen years, were responsible for the failure of his health. Dr. Malvane, who has been his family physician for years, attended Mr. Sells up to a week before his death. He gave them no hope of recovery, and Dr. Cunningham and Dr. Righter were called into consultation, but they pronounced Mr. Sells past all medical aid.

Mr. Sells was less than 38 years of age, having been born September 21, 1856, at Cleveland, Ohio. He was the second of eleven children, three brothers and seven sisters. In 1881 Mr. Sells became convinced that fortunes were to be made in the circus business. He induced his brothers, Ephraim, Peter and Lewis, to embark in the enterprise which resulted in the celebrated Sells Brothers' circus, a branch of which is still in existence. He was the most active worker of the four brothers in the success of the enterprise, and the result was that after twelve years he had acquired an independent fortune.

In 1881 Col. Sells moved to Topeka where he purchased the old Toffe house and turned it into the Windsor hotel now the National. Mr. Sells then retired to his home with the exception of a tour for two years. In 1888 he built the hotel, which has since been his home. Col. Sells has built several other handsome blocks in the city and has been a patriotic and progressive citizen.

Col. Sells leaves but one child, William, "Willie" as he is commonly called here in Topeka where he has grown up.

Will is devoted to his wife, son and little grand son and his home life was remarkable for its simplicity and happiness. He never allowed the great cares of his business to enter there. As a business man Col. Sells was a hard worker and a "bustler" as the large fortunes he has accumulated bears testimony, but no one ever cast a suspicion of unfairness or peculation on his business transactions.

Mr. Sells was appointed chairman of the board of police commissioners last spring by Governor Lewelling, but with that exception he never held nor sought office. Mr. Sells was a member of no church, although he had been brought up in the Presbyterian faith at Columbus, O. The only organization of which he was a member was the St. Andrews club. It is probable that the pall-bearers will be chosen from his old friends in this organization.

His son, William Sells, Jr., to whom the larger part of the fortune will fall, has followed in his father's footsteps by adopting the circus profession.

The time of the funeral has not been set. It will be deferred until the relatives at Columbus arrive in the city.

Each of Mr. Sells' brothers will attend, and also several sisters. His sisters are Mrs. E. E. West of Kansas City, Mrs. W. Willis Cobb of Columbus; Mrs. J. M. Holt, Mrs. B. F. Greene, Mrs. Harrett and Mrs. Colby, all of Columbus. Col. Sells' mother, now 81 years of age, still lives at Columbus, but will be unable to make the journey to Topeka.

WORKING ON GROVER.

Large Numbers of Congressmen Visit Him in regard to Sedgwick.

BIMETALLISTS.

Kansas and Other Proprietors Assembled at Des Moines.

DES MOINES, March 21.—The International Bimetallic League met here today. Among the prominent delegates are Governor Richards, ex-Governor House, Lieutenant Gov. Walter Williams, Senator J. B. Castle of Montana, Adjutant General Act of Kansas, Attorney General of North Dakota, Cal Leavenworth and W. H. Skaggs of Birmingham, Atlanta and Captain Kuhn, the free silver candidate for governor in that state, besides a large number of Iowa delegates.

The measure provides that one commissioner shall be named by the governor and one by the mayor of New York.

The name of the company is the Interstate Hudson River Bridge company. The company is capitalized at \$1,000,000.

The New York terminus of the bridge is to be between One Hundred and Seventh street and One Hundred and Eighty-fifth street.

The measure provides for two spans, which are to be 180 feet high. The bridge is expected to be a duplicate of the Gould bridge over the Mississippi river at St. Louis.

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